

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 217328 POSS DUPE  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 EUR-12 SIG-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 /097 R

DRAFTED BY AF-RMMOOSE/AF/S-LRMACFARLANE:LH  
APPROVED BY AF-RMMOOSE  
IO -MR. HELMAN (INFO)  
AF/S-HKAISER

-----115853 260420Z /21

P R 252245Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217328

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PGOV, SF, WA, ZA

SUBJECT: AUGUST 24 MOOSE/SOLE CONVERSATION

FOLLOWING FOR YOUR INFORMATION IS TEXT OF AUGUST 24  
MEMCON SUMMARIZING CONVERSATION BETWEEN ASSISTANT SECRE-  
TARY RICHARD MOOSE AND SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR DONALD  
SOLE.

BEGIN TEXT: AFTER SIGNING THE CONDOLENCE BOOK FOR STATE  
PRESIDENT DIEDERICH'S TODAY, ACCOMPANIED BY UNDER SECRE-  
TARY NEWSOM, CHIEF OF PROTOCOL DOBELLE, I SPOKE BRIEFLY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 217328 POSS DUPE

WITH AMBASSADOR SOLE. I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD STARTED  
TO CALL HIM EARLIER TODAY TO EXPRESS OUR GRATIFICATION AT  
SOUTH AFRICA'S RESTRAINT IN THE WAKE OF THE CAPRIVI  
STRIP INCIDENT BUT THEN I HEARD REPORTS OF A POSSIBILITY  
OF A SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY OPERATION IN PROGRESS TODAY.  
I TOLD HIM OUR REPORTS WERE STILL INCONCLUSIVE BUT I  
HOPED THAT THE EARLIER IMPRESSION OF RESTRAINT WAS NOT

MISTAKEN. SOLE REMINDED ME THAT HE HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER PRECISELY THIS TYPE OF INCIDENT WHEN WE HAD TALKED TWO DAYS AGO. I RESPONDED THAT THERE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE MANY OCCASIONS LIKE THIS BUT THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS IN A POSITION WHERE IT SHOULD BE ABLE TO ACT WITH RESTRAINT.

AMBASSADOR SOLE CALLED ME LATER THIS AFTERNOON TO STATE THAT AT HIS REQUEST, HIS MILITARY ATTACHE HAD SPOKEN WITH PRETORIA AND HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT "ALL MILITARY ACTION WAS NOW ENDED." I TOLD SOLE THAT THIS SEEMED TO IMPLY THAT SOME ACTION HAD TAKEN PLACE WHICH WAS NOW ENDED. I NOTED THAT ACCORDING TO INFORMATION WE HAD, THERE HAD BEEN SOME SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES IN ZAMBIA EARLIER IN THE DAY.

SOLE COMPLAINED THAT THE ZAMBIANS HAD HAD KNOWLEDGE OF THE ATTACK AND DID NOTHING TO FORESTALL IT. I TOLD HIM THAT I DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE UPPER RESPONSIBLE LEVELS OF THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT WERE INFORMED OF THE ATTACK IN ADVANCE. HE ALLOWED THAT THIS WAS POSSIBLE. I TOLD HIM THAT WE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE ANGOLANS AND THAT I WAS SPEAKING TO THE ZAMBIANS ABOUT THIS PROBLEM, IN BOTH CASES EMPHASIZING THEIR NEED TO EXERT A RESTRAINING INFLUENCE ON SWAPO. I TOLD SOLE THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT FRONT LINE AND ESPECIALLY ZAMBIA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 217328 POSS DUPE

AND ANGOLA WANT THE NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT TO WORK AND THAT THEY SIMPLY HAD TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE CONTROL OF THESE TWO GOVERNMENTS WAS LESS THAN PERFECT. RESTRAINT RATHER THAN REACTION IS MORE APT TO GET COOPERATION ON THEIR PART AND THE SOUTH AFRICANS CAN COUNT ON US TO CONTINUE OUR APPROACHES TO BOTH ANGOLA AND ZAMBIA ON THIS SUBJECT. I TOLD SOLE THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO NOTE SOUTH AFRICAN RESTRAINT IF THE CIRCUMSTANCES JUSTIFIED IT AND TO EXPRESS OUR CONCERN OVER THE ACTIONS OF SWAPO. I EXPRESSED REGRET AT THE LOSS OF SOUTH AFRICAN LIVES IN THE CAPRIVI STRIP AND SOLE RESPONDED THAT HE REGRETTED THE LOSS OF ZAMBIAN LIFE BUT THAT THIS WAS THE CONSEQUENCE OF THEIR FAILURE TO EXERCISE CONTROL OVER SWAPO FORCES IN THEIR TERRITORY. CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXT, AMBASSADORS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE217328  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RMMOOSE/AF/S-LRMACFARLANE:LH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780349-0626  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780821/aaaaarqx.tel  
**Line Count:** 108  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** aa42755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1615345  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AUGUST 24 MOOSE/SOLE CONVERSATION FOLLOWING FOR YOUR INFORMATION IS TEXT OF AUGUST 24 MEMCON SUMMARIZING CONVERSATION BETWEEN ASSISTANT  
**TAGS:** PDIP, PGOV, SF, WA, ZA, (SOLE, DONALD), (MOOSE, RICHARD)  
**To:** PRETORIA LUSAKA MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/aa42755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014